

Journals Take Up Case of Minister Forced to Retire

Eastern Newspapers and National Magazines Discuss Rev. J. D. M. Buckner of Aurora, Nebraska.

Forced retirement of the Rev. J. D. M. Buckner from the pastorate of the Aurora (Nebraska) Methodist church, because of allegedly unorthodox views, has attracted wide attention.

The New York World, the New York Times, the New York Tribune and other eastern newspapers devoted a number of columns to news and discussion of the case.

Now the magazines are taking the matter up. The Nation and the New Republic each have had extensive reviews of the matter and of Dr. Buckner's pamphlet explaining his views. The Outlook, in its current issue, devotes a page to Dr. Buckner.

The Outlook says in part: "There has just come to our desk a pamphlet which tells a story that in its outward circumstance would seem to be of concern only to the family and neighbors of the man about whom the story centers, but in its inner significance the story has no bounds of parish, state or nation."

"For 11 years Rev. J. D. M. Buckner served the Methodist church in the small town of Aurora, Neb., as its minister. During that time he not only so conducted the material affairs of the church that it became stronger financially, but evidently developed in the church moral and spiritual vitality. It is not easy to measure the invisible, but some indication of the kind of service that this minister rendered is to be found in the fact that in a little more than a decade the gifts of the church for benevolent purposes had increased from \$299 to \$2,000 and that he drew to the church men who by their words proved their loyalty to the church's cause. He was not a young man when he came to Aurora. He had been a preacher for over 20 years, and had served the Methodist Episcopal church for nearly 40 years. He is now a man of 67 years of age, mature in thought, experienced with much of the spirit of youth, but without its recklessness. What he believes and what he teaches is the result, not of sudden impulses, but of long consideration. During all the time when he was at Aurora, and for 10 years at least preceding that, he openly taught the views, amounting with him to conviction, which may be summed up in this expression of his: 'I believe that of all churches the Methodist church is the one that has the most of the new and modern conception of the Bible and of the function of Christianity as applied to the modern problems of a torn and disordered world.'"

Reproduction of Letter.

The Outlook then reproduces a letter and extracts from a sermon written by Dr. Buckner and continues: "In an informal meeting with the bishop and his cabinet Mr. Buckner was told that if his letter and sermon had not been published, it would have been possible for him to receive an appointment, and that it would be easy for Mr. Buckner simply to retire voluntarily, as he could at his age. In reply Mr. Buckner made it clear that he believed the proper way was to permit the old school men and the new school men alike to have their say, and that he had no thought of withdrawing. Nevertheless, without a trial, and in spite of the protests of his own church, with no reason given, upon the recommendation of the bishop and his cabinet the conference voted to retire Mr. Buckner from the ministry. 'In spite of the humiliation of experiencing removal from the active ministry, in spite of the greater burden of the hardship which the action of the conference had brought to his wife, Mr. Buckner expresses no personal resentment. In his pamphlet he sets the issue forth, not as a personal one, but as a question concerning the future not only of the Methodist church, but of the church in all denominations. He presents his pamphlet as a defense of younger ministers against the intimidation of the action of the bishop and the conference, and defends the Methodist church at large against unwarranted assumptions from this particular incident.'

Advocates of Liberty.

"In some cases in the past this issue between arbitrary authority and liberty in the church has been characterized by the passionate and controversial spirit of the advocates of liberty; in this case the advocate of liberty has shown a spirit of charity and good will and an understanding of the point of view of his opponents which we hope all those who believe in the cause for which he has been sacrificed will imitate."

"The issue which has been raised in Mr. Buckner's case is threefold. 'It is an issue of justice. 'Even a criminal is allowed his day in court; Mr. Buckner was not allowed any public hearing, any chance to plead his case openly before the body that was to judge him. 'Avoirded Autocratic. 'It is an issue of liberty. 'When a man enters such an order as that of the Jesuits, he surrenders his liberty of thought because of the organization to which he belongs. When, therefore, any church takes such action as that taken in Mr. Buckner's case the old issue is again raised, as between those who conceive of the church as a body ruled by divine right of the ecclesiastical authorities and those who conceive of the church as a body composed of the free sons of God. 'It is an issue of the spirit of religion. 'And of all the phases of this issue this is the most fundamental. On the one hand stand those who conceive of religion as an arbitrary system devised by the Almighty, imposed upon men by their obedience at the peril of their eternal welfare. On the other side are the men who conceive of religion as the response of men to the approach of God to

U. P. Beauties in "Hello Bill" Chorus



Do they look like chorus girls? Well, they are—and they aren't. How's that? They're one of the bays of beauties that will dance a light and fantastic toe for the patrons of the big Elks extravaganza, "Hello Bill," which will be played at the Brandeis theater starting November 19. Off stage, however, they are the girls who help audit the big freight accounts at the headquarters building of the Union Pacific system.

Left to right, they are Margaret Martin, Mary Hickey, Catherine Martin, Eyrd Ellis, Agnes Donnelly, Winnifred Williams, Beadie Held and Florence Murphy.

them and their growth in the understanding of him and his dealings with them. "This threefold issue is one that has arisen again and again in the church. It is the issue between those who fear freedom and those who welcome it, between those who believe that faith needs some protective covering and those who believe that faith, if it is really living, grows stronger by being left open to the touchstone of truth."

Mail Truck and Auto Crash.

A mail truck, driven by Carl Thompson, 3708 Arbor street, and a passenger automobile, driven by Morris Lavy, 2405 South Thirty-second street, collided at 5 Friday evening on the L street viaduct, according to a police report. No one was hurt and no arrest was made.

Many of the streets of Canton, China, are only eight feet wide.

Heroic Fireman Saves Poor Pussy Overcome by Fumes in Smoking House

Page Arthur Olsen, hero. He is driver of the red automobile in which Chief Charles Salter of the fire department rushes with alacrity to fire.

Yesterday morning at 1:17 he rescued the pet cat of Mrs. Mary Farrell, 885 Park avenue.

Rubbish and hot ashes was the combination which caused much smoke and some fire.

The smoke caused the feline respiratory organs to suspend functioning. "Will you save my cat?" pleaded Mrs. Farrell.

Mr. Olsen rushed through the smoke to the remote parts of the basement and brought the cat into

the fresh night air and applied first aid. The cat survived.

Californians Pay Taxes With Peaches

Riverside Cal., Nov. 11.—Citizens of Hemet, a small city of Riverside county, are letting peaches pay their taxes.

The city owns a 40-acre peach orchard. Profits from it were \$5,000 this year, which was not a particularly good one for a peach grower. A normal year is expected to net the city \$15,000, it is said.

Pullman Porter Held.

A. L. Rice, 2014 Paul street, Pullman porter, was arrested by Detective Liebert for investigation into charges that he stole a dozen sheets and blankets from a Pullman car.

See Want Ads Produce Results.

SOUTH OMAHA

BRANCH OFFICE, 17TH AND N STS., Rm. 100.

Bond Issue in Sarpy.

At a general meeting of the School District No. 1 of Sarpy county in the Bellevue school house, an \$8,000 bond issue for the construction of an addition to the school house and other improvements was passed by a vote of 31 to 15.

Steps will be taken at once to sell the bonds and get the improvements under construction immediately.

The increase in the school population of the district was given as the chief argument in favor of floating the bond issue.

Lucky, Loses Only Coat.

K. J. Lockman, 4612 N. street, parked his automobile at Thirtieth and U streets Friday afternoon, and left his overcoat in the machine.

When he returned, he found only the automobile.

"You're lucky," police told him, "that you didn't find just the overcoat."

Rail Agent Makes Arrest.

Special Agent Higgins arrested Joseph H. Balda at 2:10 a. m. yesterday in the vicinity of Thirtieth and E streets and caused him to be booked at South Omaha police headquarters for investigation in connection with a fire which destroyed several box cars in the Northwestern yards early this morning.

Mrs. Chereck Expires.

Mrs. Rosalie Chereck, 42, 5601 South Fifty-sixth street, died Friday in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held Monday morning in Holy Ghost church at 9. Burial will be in St. Mary Magdalene cemetery.

South Omaha Brevities

Benjamin Chait, 1012 South Tenth street, was arrested Friday night on a warrant charging larceny from a woman's handbag, all sizes, all grades, \$1 to \$18 living and dining room sets, reasonable. \$100.00, No. 2013 street.

Joseph Blomski, 3023 17th street, was arrested Friday night on a warrant charging him with grand larceny in Sarpy county. He was turned over to Sheriff Sam Slocum of Papillion.

South Side Pleasure club mask ball that was held at 13th and Martin streets last Saturday night was a great success. A large crowd is expected to attend our dance next Sunday evening at Eagle hall, 210 and N. Don't miss our carnival ball November 19.—Advertisements.

Two Girls With Toy Guns Hold Hen Roost Prowler



Look out for "Sureshot" Charley!

Leon. He's only 11, but owns an arsenal of 11 guns. His sister, Alice, 20, used his .44 gun Friday night to stop a chicken thief. She "covered" him, too, till police came.

"Every woman should know how to use a gun—and use it, in case of burglars."

This is the terse philosophy of Alice and Herman Leon, 29 and 14, South Twentieth street, this morning. Alice credits her small brother with keeping up her morale in the long interval she kept the prowler "covered" with the ".44" gun till the police arrived.

"Shoot him in the leg!" barked the blood-thirsty cowboy player. "No, no! Please don't shoot," begged the prisoner, who gave his name as Edward Ruchy, 2326 South Nineteenth street.

Cocking of the disturbed chicken in the Leon roost awakened Mrs. Leon, and a match, lit by Ruchy, confirmed the women's suspicions that

some one was in the coop. Mr. Leon was not at home.

The Leon girls announce they are going to augment their "kid" brother's toy arsenal with some "real" guns.

Mrs. Henry Koenig Dies in Hospital

Mrs. Eleanor Becher Koenig, 84, widow of the late Henry Koenig, pioneer Omaha grocer, and mother of the late William H. Koenig of the Thomas Kilpatrick & Co., died at 4 Saturday morning at the Mrs. Hoffman sanitarium after a long illness.

Mrs. Koenig was born in Prague, Bohemia, June 19, 1838, and came to Omaha with her husband in 1857, where she spent the remainder of her life. She was a prominent figure in the social life of Omaha and was active in philanthropic work. A short time before her 80th birthday anniversary Mrs. Koenig suffered a fractured hip, from which she is said to have never fully recovered.

Fritz Koenig of Thomas Kilpatrick & Co. is a grandson.

Funeral services will be held Monday afternoon at 3 at the Burket chapel.

Many Foreigners on Rhine

Berlin, Nov. 11.—Statistics compiled during the past summer show that there is a total of 150,000 foreigners living in the occupied territory on the Rhine belonging to Prussia, and in addition to this number approximately 90,000 troops and 4,000 foreign civilians attached to the forces of occupation. These figures, however, cover only about one-half of the whole occupied area, and do not include certain sections belonging to the Palatinate, Hesse and Baden.

River Gives Up Old Coin.

Eagleport, O., Nov. 11.—A coin dated 1654 was found in the Ohio river here by A. J. Stevens, who was searching the flats for Indian arrowheads. The coin was picked up near where Gen. Morgan and his raiders crossed the river during the civil war. The name of the country issuing the piece of money is not distinguishable.

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